Fiscal Estimate - 2015 Session

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LRE	Number	15-3212/1		Introd	duction Number	SB-428						
	Description Possessing a weapon on a motor bus used for public transit and providing a criminal penalty											
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Ager	ncy/Prepared	Ву		Authorized S	Signature		Date					
DOC	/ Emily Lindse	ey (608) 240-541;	3	Jeffrey Grothi	man (608) 240-5056		12/4/2015					

Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOC 12/4/2015

LRB Number	15-3212/1	Introduction Number	SB-428	Estimate Type	Original					
Description										
Possessing a weapon on a motor bus used for public transit and providing a criminal penalty										

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill makes it a Class I felony to possess, with certain exceptions, a weapon on a motor bus that is used for public transit. A person who does so is subject to a fine up to \$10,000, imprisonment for up to three years and six months, or both. Under current law, a person may generally carry a weapon that is not concealed.

It is not possible to determine the fiscal impact to the Department of Corrections because the proposed bill would create a new population of inmates/offenders and no data exists to estimate how many individuals would be convicted of this crime and sentenced to DOC's institutions or be placed under the DOC's supervision in the community.

State costs could change if an increased or decreased number of offenders are convicted of this crime and placed on probation. If there is a large increase in the number of offenders placed on probation or extended supervision, additional community corrections funding and/or positions may be necessary to handle the population. The average FY15 annual cost to supervise one offender is approximately \$2,800.

The average FY15 annual cost for an inmate in a DOC institution is approximately \$32,800. However, when there is excess capacity in DOC facilities, the incremental costs (i.e. food, health care and clothing) of housing a small number of inmates is approximately \$5,600 based on FY15 costs. Should the Department use contract beds, the rate would be approximately \$18,800 annually per person.

The local fiscal impact of the bill cannot be predicted because the Department of Corrections cannot predict the number of people that will be sentenced and the sentencing practices of judges under the new law. Costs at the local level may increase if offenders are placed in jail rather than prison.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications